

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 167231

21

ORIGIN SS-20

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DRAFTED BY TEXT RECEIVED FROM WHITE HOUSE

APPROVED BY S/S - WILLIAM H. LUERS

NEA/AFN:MWWILEY

NEA:EWALKER

WH - MRS. DAVIS

NEA/AFN:DLMACK

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R 312354Z JUL 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 167231

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XF,TS, US

SUBJECT:PRESIDENTIAL REPLY TO BOURGUIBA MESSAGE ON MIDDLE
EAST

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF CABLE WHITE HOUSE RECEIVED FROM
PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA ON JUNE 22: QUOTE C'EST AVEC UNE VIVE
SATISFACTION QUE J'AI PRIS CONNAISSANCE DE LA PRISE DE
POSITION EXPRIMEE PAR LE GOUVERNEMENT DES ETATS UNIS D'AMER-
IQUE CONDAMNANT LES BABARDEMENTS SAUVAGES ENTREPRIS PAR
L'AVIATION ISRAELIENNE CONTRE LES CAMPS DES PALESTINIENS AU
LIBAN STOP LE DECLENCHEMENT DE CETTE NOUVELLE VAGUE DE
TERREUR CONTRE LE PEUPLE PALESTINIEN SANS DEFENSE
QU'ISRAEL NE PREND PLUS LA PEINE DE JUSTIFIER INTERVIENT AU
MOMENT OU DES EFFORTS PERSERVANTS SONT MENES POUR HATER
L'AVENEMENT D'UNE SOLUTION JUSTE ET DURABLE DU CONFLIT QUI
DECHIRE CETTE REGION SI SENSIBLE DU MONDE DEPUIS PLUS DE
VINGT CINQ ANS STOP SEULE LA RESTAURATION DES DROITS DU
PEUPLE PALESTINIEN A SA PATRIE PEUT GARANTIR L'ETA-
BLISSEMENT D'UNE PAIX VERITABLE AU MOYEN ORIENT STOP UNQUOTE

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 167231

2. PLEASE DELIVER FOLLOWING REPLY:

QUOTE DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR
RECENT TELEGRAM AND THE OPPORTUNITY IT PROVIDES TO EXCHANGE

ONCE MORE OUR VIEWS ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST.

I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN ABOUT THE ISRAELI ATTACKS IN
LEBANON. THE UNITED STATES FULLY RECOGNIZES THAT CONTINUED
VIOLENCE IN THE AREA WILL MAKE PEACE-MAKING IN THE MIDDLE
EAST ALL THE MORE DIFFICULT. THE UNITED STATES HAS RE-
PEATEDLY DEPLORED THE ACTION-REACTION CYCLE OF VIOLENCE
IN THE AREA AND IS USING ITS INFLUENCE TO KEEP IT IN
CHECK, WHILE ALSO DEVOTING ITSELF TO HELPING CREATE A
FRAME-WORK FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEMS IN THE
MIDDLE EAST. AT THE SAME TIME, I HOPE THAT THOSE WHO CAN
INFLUENCE THE PALESTINIANS WILL ENCOURAGE THEM TO AVOID
ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THIS CYCLE OF VIOLENCE.

IN THE COURSE OF MY MIDDLE EAST TRIP, I SAID THAT THE
UNITED STATES RECOGNIZES THAT THERE CAN BE NO JUST AND
LASTING PEACE UNLESS THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE ARE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT, AS WELL AS THE
RIGHT OF ALL STATES IN THE AREA TO EXIST. UNFORTUNATELY,
CONTINUED VIOLENCE WORKS AGAINST THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THESE
OBJECTIVES TO WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS FULLY COMMITTED.

LET ME TAKE THIS OCCASION TO RESTATE MY DETERMINATION TO
WORK FOR A MORE PEACEFUL WORLD, AN OBJECTIVE WHICH WE
HAVE ALWAYS SHARED AND WHICH IS FURTHERED BY THE CONTIN-
UING CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR NATIONS.

WITH WARM PERSONAL REGARDS, SINCERELY, RICHARD NIXON.
UNQUOTE. KISSINGER

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